

that our service personnel and their families deserve. It funds the procurement of sophisticated weapons to make sure our troops can be certain of victory, no matter how uncertain the future.

Our military leaders understand that tomorrow's force must be agile, effective, and lean, not only in its personnel but in its operations. Secretary Cohen, working with General Shelton and General Ralston, has put together a far-reaching defense reform initiative to revolutionize the way we do the business of defense, streamlining operations, spurring competition, emphasizing efficiency. If our Armed Forces are to have the training, the readiness, the equipment, the personnel to man the frontiers of freedom abroad, Congress must do its part by making tough choices here at home. That includes closing down bases we no longer need, stripping away excess infrastructure, not adding funds for unneeded or lower priority projects.

Let our common commitment be to support our troops. Let that be the bottom line. And let us uphold in the future, as well as the past, the legacy of our American leadership.

Earlier today, as I walked into my meeting with our CINC's and members of the Joint Chiefs, I saw emblazoned on the wall a quote from General George Marshall. It read, "We are now concerned with the peace of the entire world. And the peace can only be maintained by the strong." Those words are no less true today than the day they were spoken by General Marshall. America's leadership is no less imperative today than the day General Marshall spoke those words. Our strength is every bit as important. But more than just maintaining the peace, now we have a chance to shape the future, to build a world more secure, more prosperous than any we have ever known, to give our children a world that our own parents could not even have dreamed of.

Our Nation will continue to look to our Armed Forces to pursue that historic mission. And I know, because of people like you, our Armed Forces will never let us down. Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:55 p.m. in Baruch Auditorium, Eisenhower Hall at Fort McNair. In his remarks, he referred to President Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

Statement on the Bombing of a Family Planning Clinic in Birmingham, Alabama

January 29, 1998

I strongly condemn the senseless violence that claimed the life of an off-duty police officer, and injured others, in Birmingham, Alabama this morning.

This bombing was an unforgivable act that strikes at the heart of the constitutional freedoms and individual liberties all Americans hold dear. It is specifically in order to protect those liberties that I signed into law legislation that makes it a Federal crime to interfere with a woman exercising her constitutional right to visit a women's health center. We will continue to enforce that law to its fullest extent—and to protect our Nation's family planning clinics.

Federal agents are already in Birmingham to assist local law enforcement officials in bringing the perpetrators of this terrible crime to justice.

Hillary and I join all Americans in sending our thoughts and prayers to the families and friends of the victims.

Message to the Senate Transmitting the Trademark Law Treaty and Documentation

January 29, 1998

To the Senate of the United States:

I transmit herewith for advice and consent to ratification, the Trademark Law Treaty done at Geneva October 27, 1994, with Regulations. The Treaty was signed by the United States on October 28, 1994. I also transmit for the information of the Senate, the report of the Department of State with respect to the Treaty, accompanied by a detailed analysis of the Treaty and Regulations, prepared by the Department of State and the Patent and Trademark Office of the Department of Commerce.

Ratification of the Treaty is in the best interests of the United States. The Treaty eliminates many of the burdensome formal requirements that now exist in the trademark application and registration maintenance processes of many countries. Those requirements cause considerable expense and delay for trademark owners. The Treaty is aimed at standardizing and simplifying the application process so that the application will be accepted and processed by the trademark offices of all parties to the Treaty.

I recommend, therefore, that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Trademark Law Treaty with Regulations and give its advice and consent to the ratification.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
January 29, 1998.

**Remarks at a United States
Conference of Mayors Breakfast**
January 30, 1998

Thank you for that wonderful welcome. When Secretary Peña started talking about Mayor Helmke being on "Jeopardy," I thought he was going to say—and I knew we were getting into this law school business—I thought he was going to say, "which two politicians in this room went to the greatest lengths early in their career to cover up the fact that they went to Ivy League schools." [Laughter] Once you get gray headed, you can fess up to that.

I'm delighted to be here with you, Paul, and I'm very proud of your success and the partnership we've enjoyed. Mayor Webb, good job in the Super Bowl. [Laughter] I want to say to all of you—my mayor, Jim Dailey, is here. I want to thank Secretary Cuomo and Secretary Peña, Secretary Riley, Secretary Babbitt, Secretary Slater, OMB Director Frank Raines, OPM Director Janice Lachance, General McCaffrey, Gene Sperling, my National Economic Adviser. And I want to thank our whole team. There are others who are here. I also want to say a special word of thanks to Mickey Ibarra and Lynn Cutler, who have been working with you on this conference. I think they've

done a superb job, and I hope you are pleased with it.

And we have a lot of other members of the administration here from other departments in the White House. We all like it when the mayors come to town; we get to talk about real people, real issues and building a real future for America, because that's what you embody.

Earlier this week in the State of the Union Address I asked the American people to continue working with me to strengthen our Nation for the 21st century, just 700 days, more or less, left in this century and in this millennium.

We can be very grateful for the strength that our country enjoys today. We got some new evidence, actually, this morning of that strength with the new economic report. Our economy continues to grow steadily and strongly. In the fourth quarter of last year, our economy expanded at a vigorous 4.3 percent rate with continued low inflation. Last year, economic growth for the entire year was fueled by strong exports and strong business investment. It was 3.8 percent on an annual basis. That's the highest growth rate for the United States in a decade, after years of economic expansion.

This economic strategy that we have embraced of fiscal discipline, expanded trade, and investment in our people and our future is working. What I want to talk to you about today is that we have to continue that until every American is a part of this success story.

The next steps we have to make—in education, in economic development, in crime, in partnerships with our cities, in involving all of our citizens in the work of our cities and nations—these next steps will be critical. Whether we can empower all of our urban areas and our urban citizens to make the most of their own lives will be critical to determining whether we can, in fact, take all this success that our country has had and reach every neighborhood, every block, every family, every child.

Today, thanks to your leadership, there is truly an urban renaissance taking place all across America, from New York, where crime has dropped to record lows, to Detroit, where the unemployment rate has been cut in half, to Long Beach, where the downtown